

# Matthew 5:21-32

## *Application Questions*

1. Do you agree that love for God and people is the standard of righteousness required to enter heaven? (Matthew 22:36-40; Matthew 5:20) Why or why not? How do we obtain this love?
2. What things incite you to anger (v. 22)? Do you think this is righteous indignation or selfish anger? How do you respond? How is Jesus relating anger to murder?
3. Verses 23-24 call us to self-examination. Is there someone I've offended? Is there a wall between me and my brother or sister in Christ? Why do you think the Lord wants us to deal with this before bringing our "gift to the altar"?
4. In verses 27-30, Jesus teaches us to deal severely with the internal causes of our offenses. Compare this with Galatians 5:24-26 and Romans 8:12-13. Ask the Lord to show you any areas of your flesh that He would have you crucify and to give you the power by His Spirit to do it.
5. What factors most threaten marriage today? How can a husband and wife harden their hearts to each other? If you are married, what can you do to protect your marriage and ensure that your love lasts for a lifetime?